

## A. Background of the Study

Education as the foundation for the development of a nation requires a renewal in accordance with the demands of the times. The progress of a nation is closely associated with the success in the education system, it can be characterized by the increased of the people prosperity. Since, the role of education is the important thing, education can also be said as the media used to create and to develop the quality of human resources in the country.

Educational system in Indonesia is still sticking with the conventional method, where the teacher is a main source of knowledge. The used of conventional method was considered less relevant when it is still used as the only way as the source in transferring knowledge from the teacher to the students. On the other side, an obstacle arises where some students who know well about the technology, but only few of them who use technology as their additional resources in learning. Lack of enthusiasm to employ the use of technology is one of the major reasons. In addition, where the teacher as one who supposed to transfer knowledge, however, they have not been able to understand in using the technology widely. Moreover, the geographical conditions in Indonesia also make the spread of educational facilities and infrastructure far from adequate, so that, the process of teaching and learning was far from the touch of technology. These facts causes the implementation of Information and Communication Technology (ICT)-based media in teaching and learning process do not run well, besides there are still have

many problems from the technical factors such as internet network, availability of the computer, and so on.

A significant change in the world of education is one of the positive impacts from the development of technology. Nowadays, many things have changed compared to the previous period. The distance and the time are no longer as a hard issue to gain the knowledge. Some range of applications has been created to facilitate it. Along with the modernity of the globalization era, the concept of learning has changed from the conventional learning method to the modern learning method through the development of information and communication technology (ICT), it can be said that ICT is the new influence of education especially in the process of teaching and learning.

According to Rosenberg (2001) with the development of ICT using, there are five shift of progress in the process of teaching and learning, they are: 1) from training to practice, 2) from closed-class to opened-class, 3) from paper work to "on-line" work, 4) from the physical facilities to the network facilities, 5) from time cycle to real-time cycle.

Nowadays, the development of ICT is very useful for the surrounding communities. Through the role of ICT, the people make use of technology to manage data, include; process data, getting data, compiling data, store data, and even manipulate data. With a wide variety of ways and procedures to work with, technology can produce a quality and valued information to high. In addition, humans can also benefit from the role ICT facilitate them in many ways, such as

for learning facilities as well as obtain needed information from anywhere, anytime, and from anyone.

By utilizing of internet and technology in teaching and learning process, it needs to be created an innovation regarding to the use of teaching and learning media and resources. Various forms of applications and facilities provided on the internet can be used as the improvement of the learning quality. In addition, through the aspect of media usage, the utilizing of the internet and technology also facilitates the teaching and learning activities in the classroom. In line with that, it appears computer-based instruction learning through electronic media, and it is known by the name of e-Learning.

E-Learning as a form of implementing ICT-based in the teaching and learning process, this is usually manifested in the form of online learning by the use of electronic-based devices such as computer that equipped by the internet connection. The form of e-Learning can be presented in more interactive model, and also the learning information can be served in up-to date and real-time situation. Similarly, the process of communication between teachers and students, even it is not able to conduct face-to-face discussion directly, the teaching and learning process can be done online, therefore, the teaching and learning process that occurs is not only limited by place and time, because e-Learning has no limitations access. Consequently, it is the reason why it made possible that the teaching and learning process can be done in more time.

The concept of E-Learning in the education system in Indonesia is nothing new. In fact, there have been many schools that have used this method as their way

in the teaching and learning process. The implementation of this concept become easier, because most of their students get to know the technology, even they are very familiar in using it and the students are handy to the basic concepts of e-Learning in their daily lives. In addition, the average of the teachers who taught at that school is a teacher with the good quality and it has been tested, and they also have the capability to master the various teaching methods. That is why in implementing of this concept certainly does not pose a big problem for them.

On the other hand, there are also the students who are away from the touch technology. In fact, some of these students have not yet known about the technology correctly, unfortunately, the numbers of such students are nearly dominating in Indonesia as a whole. The solution of this condition should be done immediately, because the students will be the next generation who handle this nation, and they are living in the future world that technological development keeps changing in every second.

Education cannot escape from the influence of the information technology and computer technology development, it can be felt by the existence of various trends, such as: 1) Teacher-oriented to the learner-oriented. 2) Open learning and distance learning has been known widely. 3) The large number of learning resource are available, and (4) The enhancement of standard quality that required in the global competition. Moreover, based on the basic principle of e-Learning, its concept is really helpful in delivering of the material from the teacher to the students. The learning process became more interesting, thus it can motivate students in understanding the material easily. Unfortunately, not all of the schools

in Indonesia can enjoy this modern learning system because the access to ease the technology is still very limited. In addition, the conventional learning pattern by the teacher is still hard to be changed. Through the implementation of ICT-based media in teaching and learning, the teachers and the students get to know the modern technology. As one of an alternative method of in the right of e-Learning, it is known as a method of blended learning.

Blended learning is the learning method that combines class-based learning system (or face to face) with e-Learning system. Through this method, the conventional learning pattern is supported by the use of the electronic media, so the teaching and learning process become more interactive and give more learning benefits. A technology was invented and developed for the benefit of human being, thus by utilizing of information and communication technology, a human can fulfill their necessity effectively and efficiently. Related to that situation, by regarding to the aspects of language skills, it has also become a component of interest to be reviewed. In fact, the language users can utilize the technology to enhance their language competence, either in receptive or in productive. In this study, the researcher tried to give an overview about the use of ICT-based technologies as a medium of learning language skills. So it appears a paradigm that the use of technology as a medium of learning, it turns out, are able to improve the results of learning the language.

Considering its function, in order to reach the best results in teaching and learning process, the teachers must be able to make a good lesson plan, choose and develop suitable technique with the basic competence, motivate the students,

implement the lesson plan, evaluate and follow up the program. It is crucial, since the teachers' role is to create the learning atmosphere in which students are active and able to express creative ideas. The class is full of students' activities and enjoyable. The students are learning effectively in the class. Besides that, using multimedia or internet media is necessary now in order to facilitate students to search information and express their ideas so that students' writing skill can improve.

Being a teacher, he or she should be able to attract the students' interest toward the materials. English teacher were claimed to be able to create innovative strategy that enables the teaching and learning process become exciting. According to Rockler (1988), "innovative teaching strategies are needed to increase the problem solving capacity of students". Furthermore, the regulation of the Indonesia Minister of Education and Culture No. 65 2013 stated that every teacher is obliged to apply the ICT-based media in systematically and integrated, in accordance with the situation and conditions. The implementation of ICT-based media in the teaching and learning process also create good atmosphere. It can be run in active, creative, effective and also engaging for the learners. Through the implementation of ICT-based media, the teacher as the leader in organizing the education process, they must participate in the development of learning methods, which aims to increase the motivation and the learning outcomes of the learner. Related to the innovations in the teaching and learning process, applying media, especially the media which encourage the students' motivations, therefore, the English class will have different situation. The teaching materials can be given more interestingly. In

this case, the teacher chose an electronic social media in English teaching and learning process.

There are several features of ICT-based media which is able to be integrated in language teaching and learning process, one of them is a social education network which is called Edmodo. As a means of ICT-based learning media, it has been successfully developed by Jeff O'Hara and Nicolas Brog in 2008. Through social networks learning named as Edmodo, it could be a very precise answers for the teacher and the learners. Edmodo is a micro blogging platform that specifically developed and designed for the teachers and students in a classroom. In Edmodo, there are some facilities that provide a secure and easy way to communicate and to collaborate among the teachers and the students, it also shares content in the form of text, images, links, video, and audio.

Moreover, Thongmank (2013) stated that Edmodo is a private social network that is claimed to provide a secure learning platform for learners and educators. According to Majid (2011) in Satriyo (2013) the interface of Edmodo looks like Facebook so that new user who has used Facebook will be familiar with it. Moreover, Edmodo provides also an authentic reading and writing by letting students join many kinds of communities which provide discussion among students, tips, and materials. Student can communicate with other students all over the world and also discuss about various any kinds of topic, including their culture.

In language teaching and learning process, Edmodo enables the teacher to create new situation in its process. Through Edmodo, it is quite possible to encourage the students' motivation. Technology encourages the students' eagerness

to use it. Here, Ramachaudran (2004) added that using new forms of technologies in the language class activities will certainly encourage and motivate learners to use the target language. Therefore, Edmodo is very useful in facilitating teaching and learning process, because it can encourage social interaction, whereas student can interact directly with teacher through Edmodo.

By viewing from the pre-observation that conducted by the researcher, SMA Al-Islam 1 Surakarta as one of favorite private school in the city of Surakarta, it shows nearly 50% of the teachers implement ICT-based media as their supporting media in teaching and learning in the classroom. The researcher noted that some teachers utilize Microsoft Office program and internet network in planning, preparing and implementing in the teaching and learning activities. In addition, almost all of the teachers who have applied ICT-based media also use Microsoft PowerPoint for presentation media during the teaching and learning process in the classroom. Related to the use of Edmodo, there were only 15% of teachers of SMA Al-Islam 1 Surakarta who had known and used it as one of the media in organizing the teaching and learning activities, one of the teachers is the teacher Sofiatus Zuhro, S. Pd, M.Pd. She is the English teacher who teaches the tenth grade students of science class.

Based on the conditions above, SMA Al-Islam 1 Surakarta has been using e-Learning methods through Edmodo. Thus, the researcher intends to do the research about the implementation of Edmodo as ICT-based media in English teaching and learning process. Besides, the researcher also will look at the problems encountered by the teacher and the students in implementing Edmodo as ICT-based



media in the English teaching and learning process, and also to know how the solutions are made to solve the problems encountered.